

## New York Tribune.

VOL. XXIV.....No. 7,230.

NEW-YORK, TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 1864.

PRICE THREE CENTS.

etry surged along our lines, as ocean waves dash  
tempest-driven against the rocks. Our losses from  
Wednesday evening to the present time in killed,  
wounded, and missing, cannot fall short of 1,500, while  
the loss of the enemy, including captured, must cer-  
tainly have been more than double our own loss, owing  
to our advantage of earthworks.

Yesterday, p. m., after a day of torrid heat and suf-  
focating dust, a cooling and copious rain came as a  
heavenly benediction upon the fevered, wounded, and  
foot-sore, marching soldier. This morning it indicates  
a verification of the adage, that it never rains but it  
pours. A general assault was ordered last evening at 4,  
but owing to the heavy rain it was deferred to 4 1/2 a.  
m., when a fierce cannonading, equalling Gettysburg,  
opened along our whole line. It is presumed, that Lee  
will be driven across the Chickahominy to-day, but if  
not, he will be fought to the bitter end, on his line.

Should he retire behind his Richmond fortifications,  
now some three miles only in his rear, then we shall  
have other duties and deeds of valor to perform, all of  
which our men are equal to, and ready and anxious to  
execute. BETA.

**Friday's General Assault—The Whole Line  
Advanced Three-Quarters of a Mile—  
500 Prisoners Taken—Union Losses  
Heavy—Brilliant Bayonet Charges—  
Artillery Captured and Retaken—Our  
Lines but Twenty-five Yards from Lee's—  
Fruitless Rebel Assaults on Friday  
Night.**

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, June 6, 1864.

Your correspondent "T. C. G." writes:

HEADQUARTERS 2D ARMY CORPS,  
COLD HARBOR, Va., Friday Night, June 3.

At 4:30 to-day the report of a single cannon  
sounded along our lines, breaking the silence of a beau-  
tiful Summer morning, and summoning the troops to an  
assault upon the Rebel works in their front. The echo  
of the gun had hardly died away before our lines were  
moving onward to the attack, which, although proving  
partially abortive, secured to us the possession of an  
advanced position and a number of prisoners, estimated  
at 500. The whole of our line to-night occupies a po-  
sition one to three-quarters of a mile in advance of the  
one held this morning, and the 15th Corps, together  
with Ricketts' division of the 6th, possess a distinct line  
of the enemy's rifle-pits, carried by them this morning.

Owing to the formidable character of the enemy's  
main works, it was deemed impolitic to continue the  
assault, and accordingly at noon our men rested in their  
new positions, which have now been rendered im-  
penetrable by earthworks thrown up during the day all  
along our front.

Our loss to-day has been very heavy, and is estimated  
at from 3,000 to 5,000. The 15th Army Corps suffered  
severely, losing nearly half the number mentioned.  
The loss of the 2d Corps will not fall short of 1,500,  
while that of the 6th Corps is estimated at about 1,000.  
The loss of the enemy, although great, must have been  
considerably less, as they acted wholly on the defensive.

The positions of the corps in the line were as follows  
from right to left: The 9th, 5th, 18th, 6th and 2d. Burn-  
side's right rested near Bethesda Church, while Hancock  
held the left. The advance was simultaneous. The  
brigades of Brooks and Miles formed in two lines pre-  
ceding the 14th Pennsylvania, Col. Beaver, acting as skir-  
misher, led the charge, charging the works at the  
point of the bayonet, and driving the enemy from them  
in confusion. In reforming, our troops in the works were  
desperately charged upon by the enemy and compelled  
to retire a short distance under the protection of a  
ridge, but a few yards from the Rebel works. Here  
strong works were immediately constructed and held  
by our troops in spite of the efforts of the enemy to  
dislodge them during the day.

In the charge of Barlow's division, 217 prisoners  
and one color were taken. The latter, belonging to the 26th  
Virginia, was captured in the works by Corporal Ter-  
rence Bigler of Company D, 7th N. Y. Heavy Artillery.  
The Colonel of the regiment was bayoneted in the  
works, and a number of other officers made prisoners.

Our line on the extreme left is scarcely twenty-five  
yards from the enemy, whose guns at that point are  
covered by our sharpshooters. Six pieces were taken  
in the charge, and Col. Morris, commanding the 7th  
N. Y. Heavy Artillery, was about to turn them upon  
the enemy, when he was charged upon by overpowering  
masses, and compelled to retire.

At 9 o'clock to-night the enemy made a desperate  
assault on our position on the left, but were handsomely  
repulsed at every point, and our line maintained.

To-night the intelligence reaches headquarters that  
Bottom's Bridge on the Chickahominy has been taken,  
and is now held by Sheridan's cavalry.

SATURDAY MORNING.—Everything is quiet this morn-  
ing at 6 o'clock. Our wounded are being sent to Wash-  
ington via White House.

**Second Battle of Cold Harbor—A Sharp  
and Bloody Conflict—Our Loss Over  
4,000—A General Assault on Lee's  
Works—The Whole Line Advanced and  
the New Position Held—Many Rebel  
Works Taken—Capture of Bottom's  
Bridge—Casualties.**

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, June 6, 1864.

"C. A. P." writes:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,  
Friday, June 3—9 p. m.

This, the 30th day of the campaign, has witnessed  
still another general engagement, nearer to Richmond  
than any other, and scarcely less bloody than any other.  
It is the second battle of Cold Harbor, the first being  
that of day before yesterday. Our loss is between 4,000  
and 5,000, distributed among the corps as follows: 15th  
Corps, 2,000; 2d Corps, 1,400; 6th Corps, 1,000; 5th  
and 9th Corps, say 600 to 1,000.

A general assault was ordered to be made at 4 1/2 a.  
m., and was made promptly at the hour.

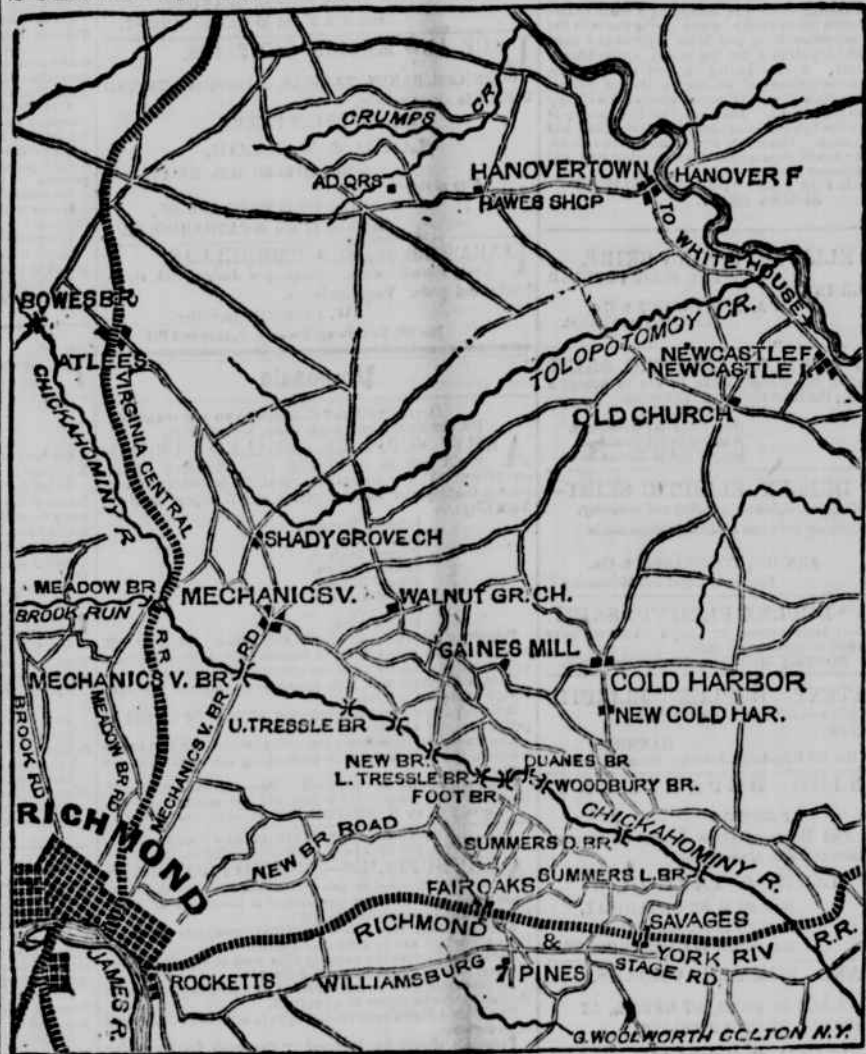
The relative positions of the corps, beginning at the  
left, were in this order: 2d Corps, Hancock; 6th Corps,  
Wright; 18th Corps, Smith; 5th Corps, Warren; 9th  
Corps, Burnside.

Warren and Burnside did not participate in the as-  
sault. Brave as was the attack, and severe as has been  
the loss, the result is indecisive. Generally the line has  
been materially advanced. Everywhere we hold closer  
to the Rebel line. Bully Smith carried and retains a  
distinct, well-intrenched position, and other corps are in  
possession of detached works and various positions  
more or less important, from which they drove the  
enemy.

Hancock charged with Barlow's and Gibbon's divi-  
sions, holding Birney in reserve in the works from which  
he moved and protecting his left flank. Barlow carried  
everything before him, capturing guns, prisoners, and  
colors; but whether unsupported by corresponding suc-  
cess on his right, or whether he finally met more than  
any one division could withstand, at length he was  
forced to relinquish nearly all these trophies. Intrench-  
ing some distance in advance of his original position,  
and resting his left on a swamp perpendicular to the  
Chickahominy, he has all day maintained a brisk sharp-  
shooting.

The affair was splendidly covered by several batte-  
ries. The charge and the withdrawal occupied two or  
three hours. One battle-flag and 300 prisoners were

## SCENE OF THE STRUGGLE FOR RICHMOND.



brought off. Gibbon's charge on Barlow's right began  
with a desperate rush, and was met with a resistance so  
stern, inflicting loss so severe, that, having within the  
hour carried one line, he, too, intrenched, and has  
fought the remainder of the day with artillery and  
sharpshooters.

Yesterday, Hancock, assuming a portion of Wright's  
front, caused Neill's division to be taken from the left  
to the right of the 6th Corps, leaving Russell on the  
left, and Ricketts in the center. The whole division  
charged, excepting Russell's 2d and 3d Brigades. Neill  
and Ricketts gained nearly half a mile, Russell less,  
owing to his coming upon open ground swept by mus-  
ketry. Besides, it would not do to advance beyond  
Gibson, who connected with his left.

During the afternoon, when I visited the 6th Corps,  
which had already constructed admirable works, an  
intention had been exposed never so briefly above any  
point of the parapet, drew, in every instance, a shower  
of bullets from the Rebel line, not two hundred yards  
distant.

Devlin's division having been moved to the right of  
the 15th Corps, Martindale's became the center, and  
Brooks's the left. The 15th probably achieved the  
most decisive success of the day, gaining more ground,  
and holding it with great tenacity and loss. It should  
be stated, however, that five times as many straggled  
from it as did from all other corps combined. I ac-  
count for the paradox by the assumption that the  
officers did their entire duty, and this view is confirmed  
by the great fatality among them.

After the morning assault and the almost simultane-  
ous distance from the same, the whole line set to in-  
trenching, while the heavy guns never ceased to play,  
nor the skirmish lines their hot fusillade, till sunset.  
But there has been no line-of-battle firing. The po-  
sition remained unchanged, except that Birney's division,  
was withdrawn from the left and sent to occupy the  
space between Smith and Warren, giving to the army a  
connected line of six miles. It is mainly parallel with  
the Chickahominy, although confusingly zigzag in par-  
ticular direction, and extends through alternate fields  
and woodland. I judge the ground to be on the average  
higher than the enemy's, and to that extent we have  
the better position.

The prisoners taken are from the most diverse com-  
mands: from all the corps of Lee's army proper,  
from Breckinridge, and from three divisions of Beaure-  
gard, showing that the enemy has used everything he  
can command.

Thirty-two prisoners, probably brought from the de-  
fenses of Richmond, opened upon us at daybreak, and  
dropped shells far to the rear, not only of troops, but of  
the different headquarters, of the trains and the  
hospitals; indeed, every corps headquarters has been  
under warm fire from morning to night. I suspect our  
artillery has been more troublesome to the Rebels. We  
have certainly had more pieces in position, and in  
better position, and they have been served with dili-  
gence and judgment.

One instance in illustration: Capt. Stevens, 5th Mo.,  
disclosed to the Rebels at daylight two guns of his  
battery on the Gaines's Mill road at Wright's left, well  
covered by earthworks, and within 200 yards of their  
line. From there he has thrown grape and canister at  
their troops, excepting when either of two batteries  
nearly opposite would open upon him, when he would  
turn his attention and his guns to shelling them to  
silence. So close are these guns to the enemy, that a  
captured shell upon the parapet would be instantly  
perforated, while a mine goes jeeering by.

Imagine it—men work all day, and never once stand  
upright. Load the pieces upon their hands and knees,  
extending the rammers out of the embrasures, while  
others shovel to replace the earth knocked away by  
hostile projectiles. Here, where the bushes have been  
allowed to stand in the embankment, if you will  
rise up cautiously and peer through, you shall see the  
shouldered earth as it is thrown up and falls upon the  
line 200 yards away. You must be wary, and you must  
promptly drop on your knees when you see a puff of  
smoke, for they suspect some one is looking through  
that clump of bushes. You will have sufficient time to  
drop down into safety, for the smoke will puff out  
white and distinct a quarter of a minute before the  
sound of the discharge reaches you, or the  
ball whizzes by or thuds in the thrown-up dirt.  
Better take off your hat, for it can be seen more dis-  
tinctly than your naked head, and don't betray any  
nervousness should the ball, which will surely come, shower  
dirt upon your head, else those old artillerymen will  
laugh at you. Now, if you want to get to the rear, stoop  
low and double-quick till you get under cover of the  
woods. It's only eight or ten rods. Oh, there isn't  
any danger. They won't hurt you—more than a hun-  
dred men have run across there to-day. Every one has  
been fired at, and only three have been struck. You  
see they only get a glimpse of you, and can't get a good  
aim. They'll shoot over you, or behind you, or ahead of  
you. Those two guns alone would stop the advance of  
a brigade.

Since I began this letter the enemy have attacked  
Barlow and been repulsed. Sheridan is reported to  
hold Bottom's Bridge, on the Chickahominy. This  
may induce the enemy to abandon his present position  
to-night and cross that classic stream.

Col. Jas. McMahon, 164th New York, Corcoran Leg-  
ion, is supposed to be a prisoner, badly wounded. In  
the charge he was in advance of his regiment, had  
mounted the parapet simultaneously with the color-  
bearer, had taken the colors in his own hands, had  
rammed the staff into the earth, and was shouting to  
his men, only a few of whom were near, when he was  
seen to clasp his hand to his side, to walk back a few  
steps, and then to sink upon the ground. In the ac-  
companying list of casualties will be seen Col. Fredk  
Wead, 96th New York, killed. Wounded quite se-  
verely last night, he could not be prevailed upon to  
leave the field. This morning in the charge he fell.

Gen. Tyler, anki, captured. Col. Morris, 6th N. Y., killed.  
Col. Haskell, 8th Wis., killed. Col. Ward, 9th N. Y., do.  
Lieut. Col. Perry, 130th N. Y., killed.  
Col. Byrnes, 2d Mass., seriously wounded. Col. Mass, 8th N. Y., killed.  
Gen. Brock, 18th N. Y., killed. Col. E. B. R. Bossey, shoulder.  
Col. McMahon, 164th N. Y., killed. Lieut. Col. M. B. Bossey, shoulder.  
Col. Russell, 2d Pa., slightly. Capt. Williamson, 7th N. Y. H. A.,  
killed. Lieut. Col. M. B. Bossey, shoulder.  
Lieut. Col. M. B. Bossey, shoulder.

**Friday Night's Attack—Capture of Bot-  
tom's Bridge.**

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, June 6, 1864.

Your special correspondent sends the fol-  
lowing:

COLD HARBOR, Saturday, June 4—5 a. m.

The enemy made a night attack on the 2d Corps last  
night, which was repulsed with great loss. All quiet  
this morning. Sheridan took Bottom's Bridge last  
night. There are no indications of a renewal of the  
battle to-day, though it may open any moment. The  
wounded are being sent off.

LATER.—The cannonade has opened on our right.  
There is no musketry yet, but there will probably be  
some fighting through the day.

**Friday's Battle—Fierce Artillery Fight—  
The Grand Charge—General Outline of  
the Action and its Results—It was  
Favorable for Us—Repeated Repulses  
of the Rebels—No Fighting on Saturday.**

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, June 6, 1864.

Your correspondent Beta sends the following:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,  
COLD HARBOR, Saturday, 4 a. m.

Throughout the long hours of yesterday, from early  
daylight till dark, a fierce and terrible artillery contest  
raged along our lines. The air was thick and heavy  
with the scream and moan of shot and shell, and the  
very skies darkened with iron bolts of death, while at  
intervals the ebb and flow of musket volleys told of the  
close contact and deadly struggle of the contending  
armies. I can compare its horror to nothing less ap-  
pealing than the fierce contest of the second day at  
Gettysburg, although, owing to the covered positions  
of both armies, yesterday the casualties bear no propor-  
tion to that sanguinary field.

Our line must have extended six miles, facing nearly  
west, and perhaps five miles from the bank of the Pa-  
namy.

Very soon after sunrise, Wright advanced his 6th  
Corps and carried an important Rebel position, but at  
a heavy loss. Warren pushed his lines forward, cap-  
turing three lines of Rebel artillery, several stands  
of colors, intrenching tools, etc., but the rallying  
was driven back from all save the first line, on the first  
rise of the field, where a noble band of more than Spar-  
tan heroes stood at bay throughout all the day, holding  
their prize of guns and flags, the foe not daring to ad-  
vance upon them. The general result of yesterday's  
stubborn contest was favorable to us. We related  
every assault made upon us, and succeeded in import-  
ant advances of our relative positions.

Our losses have been very heavy, particularly so  
in officers, as much of the fighting was within one hun-  
dred yards of each other.

From what I saw of the wounded and the hospital  
returns up to nine o'clock last evening, I am confident  
our casualties cannot be less than 3,500. Yesterday,  
also, has been the first day since the Wilderness fight  
that we have lost any considerable number by capture.  
We took about 600 prisoners, and are supposed to have  
lost nearly as many. The heaviest fighting and conse-  
quent loss fell upon "Bully" Smith's (18th) Corps. We  
took prisoners from Long's (2d), Ewell's, Hill's, Breck-  
inridge's, Polk's and Burgess's corps, and they all asser-  
ted that the last possible man of the Southern army  
has been summoned by Lee to die in the last ditch.

About 8 o'clock last night, the foe made a desperate  
charge upon Warren for the recapture of their guns  
and lost position, coming down in solid masses and  
with the invariable demoniac yell of their charge, but  
our grape and canister were too fearful in their sweep,  
and his scattered broken columns were reeling back in con-  
fusion, leaving great numbers of his dead and wounded  
before us to testify to his temerity and madness.

But your other correspondents with the separate  
corps will send herewith full details of the action of

each, and I content myself with the briefest telegraphic  
generalization attainable at headquarters.

Of one thing the enemy must now be thoroughly sat-  
isfied and convinced. He cannot break our lines through  
nor drive our men from their established positions,  
though he pile every man of all his corps upon any  
point of our line. He has attempted it over and over  
again, and repeated it times without number again re-  
peatedly, but our troops stood as invincible as iron mon-  
itors, and in no single instance have they given way.

Later last evening news reached us at headquarters  
from Sheridan that he had taken Bottom's Bridge. At  
about 9 o'clock brisk cannonading was heard in that  
direction; and, as everything was quiet in our front, it  
was supposed a portion of Lee's had been withdrawn to  
engage the audacious trooper. At the hour your special  
messenger left this morning no demonstration had been  
made by the foe. He was supposed to occupy his old  
positions, however, on the east bank of the river. A few  
hours will develop the day's proceedings, but as yet all  
is uncertain.

**Dates to Sunday Morning—No Dem-  
onstrations on Saturday Only a Desultory  
Cannonading—Artillery Firing at Bot-  
tom's Bridge—Two Furious Night  
Attacks—The Enemy Repulsed with  
Great Slaughter—Lee Then Withdraws  
From Our Right Front—Musketry on  
Our Right Center—Grant Hopeful and  
Confident—Flank Movement on Burn-  
side Thwarted—Casualties.**

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Monday, June 6, 1864.

Your correspondent writes:

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,  
COLD HARBOR, June 5—9 a. m.

There were no demonstrative movements by either  
Army during Saturday. A desultory cannonading was  
heard on our extreme left, in the direction of Bottom's  
Bridge, supposed to be the enemy shelling Sheridan in  
the morning, but it soon ceased. The day was cool,  
and rain fell in sufficient quantities to refresh, and not  
deluge, the men in hospitals, on picket, and in the  
trenches.

Last night, about 8 o'clock, the enemy made his ac-  
customed night attack in a furious assault upon Bar-  
low, but, as ever before, was repulsed with severe loss.  
About midnight he attempted to drive Hancock from  
his position, and again signally failed. It is ascertained  
this morning that the enemy has withdrawn his forces  
from our right front at Bethesda Church, and now and  
then a cannon shot is heard, probably from our cavalry  
harassing their retreating column.

Sheridan's seizure of Bottom's Bridge, and his stub-  
born refusal to retire, excites their indignation and  
active resistance. No battle was anticipated to-day.  
Considerable musketry-firing on our right center was  
heard about 9 o'clock, the result of which, however, is  
at this time unknown.

Grant speaks with quiet confidence of his ability to  
capture Richmond—says it is only a question of time.  
The loss of the 6th and 18th Corps in Friday's engage-  
ment proves more severe than first reported. The Re-  
bels attempted a flank movement upon Burnside's re-  
troops, but our cavalry under Wilson soon routed them.

In this contest, Col. Benin, 4th U. S. Cavalry, was  
severely wounded, and Col. Preston, a brave and gal-  
lant officer, commanding the 1st Vermont, was killed.  
Our army has fifteen days' rations on hand, and more  
coming up to White House.

On the north-east side of the Chickahominy are two  
ridges of hills whose lines and angles form a huge let-  
ter W, and at several points of these angles our rifle-  
pits and the enemy's are within fifty yards of each  
other.

It was in one of these places of close proximity that  
Col. Morris of New-York was instantly killed by a  
sharpshooter, while walking beside Gen. Barlow. It  
was expected that by Monday all our wounded would be  
got to the rear, in readiness for a further movement.  
Grant means there shall be no rest for the wicked—  
Rebels. Col. Harry McKean, commanding 4th Bri-  
gade, 1st Division, 2d Corps, was killed in Friday's fight,  
on the disputed line held by a gallant little band of our  
heroes. The fact was not ascertained until yesterday.

BETA.

**List of Casualties—Brig.-Gen. Tyler and  
Brooks Wounded—Col. Morris and  
Haskell Killed—Col. Byrnes Fatally  
Wounded.**